

[10901/63]

**REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
GROUP ART UNIT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor(s) : Hermann MEYER  
Serial No. : 10/798,109  
Filed : March 10, 2004  
For : ARRANGEMENT FOR CONNECTING A TUBULAR  
ELEMENT TO A BODY EXTENDING INTO THE SAME  
Examiner : Branon Painter  
Art Unit : 3609  
Confirmation No. : 5925

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office via the Office electronic filing system on

Date: **June 26, 2008**

Signature: /Julie Forero/

**TRANSMITTAL**

S I R:

Applicants enclose herewith a Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 and an Application Data Sheet in response to the Final Office Action mailed March 18, 2008.

Applicants respectfully request a **one-month** extension of time in which to respond to the Office Action mailed March 18, 2008 for which a three-month response period, expiring on June 18, 2008, was set. The one-month extended period for response expires on July 18, 2008. Please charge the 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) **one-month extension fee of \$120.00**, and any additional fees that may be required, to **Deposit Account No. 11-0600**.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 26, 2008

By: /Clifford A. Ulrich/  
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**REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

S I R:

In response to the Final Office Action of March 18, 2008, kindly amend the above-captioned application without prejudice as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.